



MAY 19 2003

16/RCE/2876  
T. Steptoe  
5-21-03

PTO/SB/30 (10/2001)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002 OMB 0651-0031  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

**REQUEST****FOR****CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)  
TRANSMITTAL**

Address to:  
**Commissioner for Patents**  
**Box RCE**  
**Washington, DC 20231**

**Application Number** 09/696,117**Filing Date** October 25, 2000**First Named Inventor** Kitagawa**Art Unit** 2876**Examiner Name** Lisa M. Caputo**Attorney Docket Number** 83975**This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application**

Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO ) on page 2.

**1. Submission required under 37 CFR §1.114**a.  Previously submittedi.  Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR §1.116 previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_  
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).ii.  Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_  
iii.  Other \_\_\_\_\_b.  Enclosedi.  Amendment/Reply      iii.  Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)  
ii.  Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)      iv.  Other      Associate POA; Petition for Ext. of Time \_\_\_\_\_**2. Miscellaneous**a.  Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR §1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR§1.17(i) required)b.  Other**3. Fees** The RCE fee under 37 CFR §1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR §1.114 when the RCE is filed.a.  The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 23-0920i.  RCE fee required under 37 CFR §1.17(e)      ii.  Extension of time fee (37 CFR §§1.136 and 1.17)      iii.  Other 05/21/2003 AWDNDAF1 00000051 09696117  
01 FC:1801 750.00 OPb.  Check in the amount of \$ 860.00 enclosedc.  Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Name (Print / Type)	Daniel M. Gurfinkel	Registration No. (Attorney / Agent)	34,177
---------------------	---------------------	-------------------------------------	--------

Signature		Date	May 14, 2003
-----------	--	------	--------------

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark

Name (Print / Type)	Daniel M. Gurfinkel
---------------------	---------------------

Signature		Date	5/14/03
-----------	--	------	---------

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.